(b) the number of cases of grievances that have been received by the Ministry;

(c) out of these how many have been settled; and

(d) the time frame for the settlement of the remaining cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (d) The Ministry has been receiving complaints which were referred to the States/UTs concerned for investigation and report. While two such cases are *sub-judice*, all the other cases have been settled.

Under the amendments made to the Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (Regulations and Prevention of Misuse) Act, 1994 and the Rules framed there under a provision for appeal has been made. The amended provisions have already come into-force with effect from 14th February, 2003. Now under Rule 19 of the Pre-conception and Pre-natal Diagnostic Techniques (Prohibition of Sex Selection) Rules, any person having grievance against the decision of the sub-district level Appropriate Authority may appeal to the district level Appropriate Authority. Similary, for grievances against the decision of the district level Appropriate Authority appeal can be made to the State/UT level Appropriate Authority. Each appeal is to be disposed of within 60 days of its receipt by the appellate authority concerned.

Specialised treatment in Dental Department of Safdarjung Hospital

548. SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is no provision of specialized treatment in Dental Department of Safdarjung Hospital;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of specialized treatment facilities which exists; and

(d) the efforts taken, if any, to provide the facilities for specialized treatment in all other departments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) (a) No, Sir.

(b) In view of (a) above, question does not arise.

(c) The following specialized treatment facilities are available in Safdarjung Hospital:—

(i) Root Canal treatment
(ii) Gum Surgery
(iii) Minor Surgery

(d) Improvement/Expansion is an on-going process, which are considered depending upon the needs and available resources in various Departments of Hospitals.

Inclusion of Insulin as Life Saving Drug

549. SHRI MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for Insulin being not kept in the category of life saving drug when it is essential for the survival of diabetic patients;

(b) whether it is a fact that Glucometers and Strips are not manufactured in the country;

(c) if so, whether Government propose to exempt them from customs duty altogether;

(d) whether Government are aware of the dimensions of diabetes in the country and the growing proportions of diabetic population; and

(e) if so, the preventive measures Government propose to take to contain diabetics in the country alongwith the details during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) (a) Monocomponent insulins, Porcine Insulin Zinc Suspension; and Porcine and Bovine Insulin stand notified as Life Saving Drug under List 4 of Custom Notification No. 21/2002-Cus. Dated 1.3.2002 at Sl. Nos. 71,83 and 85 respectively and are exempted from customs duty.

(b) Glucometers are manufactured in India as per information given by Health and Biotechnology Division, Department of Information and Technology, Ministry of Communications and Information Technology.